

READINESS REPORTER

"Star in the East"

REDCOM Southeast's Quarterly Information Newsletter

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January 2001

COMUSNAVCENT DET 108 RESERVE SAILORS ASSIST USS COLE RESCUE EFFORT

By COMUSNAVCENT Public Affairs

Shortly after USS COLE was attacked by terrorist bombers and accounts were reported to U.S. Fifth Fleet Head-quarters in Bahrain, a Crisis Action Team was manning a 24-hour watch to help coordinate the U.S. Navy's efforts in Aden, Yemen. The around-the-clock demands of such an undertaking created a need for immediate help from Commander, U.S. Navy Central Command's (COMUSNAVCENT) Reservist. COMUSNAVCENT Det 108 already had a Crisis Response Team formed up and within 48-hours, 19 members of the unit were in Bahrain relieving the active-duty counterparts of their watchstanding duties.

"We hit the ground running," said Captain James A. Cunningham, Commanding Officer of COMUSNAVCENT Det 108. "We had everything we needed to go right to work, so there was really no mobilization process."

The mission of the team was to marshal forces to Aden harbor and provide USS COLE Sailors assistance and protection, as well as provide information to Vice Admiral Moore, the staffs of the U.S. Central Command, the Chief of Naval Operations and above.



Sailors from the COMUSNAVCENT DET 108 unit busily providing administrative support

USS COLE



"When a U.S. warship is hit like that, there are a lot of questions, a lot of people getting involved. Right from the President on down, they are asking questions, wanting to know what's going on," said Cunningham.

The requirements and duties of the team's mission changed during their three-week stay in Bahrain, from overseeing damage control and medical evacuations to coordinating the ship and crew's return to the United States.

"Sure, it is difficult for our families and work to have us fly off so quickly, but that is our mission. The Sailors who gave their lives certainly deserve our best efforts and some sacrifices on our part to help," added Cunningham

The Reserve members' efforts included: personnel tracking, updating intelligence reports, re-supplying the crew and rescue teams, arranging flights in and out of Yemen, communications support, and other tasks.

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"Indoctrination"

This month marks the start of both a new year and a new millennium. It is the time of year when many of us make resolutions to improve or renew some aspect of our professional or personal lives. This is true at the Readiness Command as well. In keeping with our Leading Change initiatives that

I have spoken about before, we will continue to focus on improving technology for training and improving the quality of the work-spaces that you use. Another area that we need to improve in is the way we train, integrate and retain new Selected Reservists into our units and the Naval Reserve.

Retention is a significant issue throughout the Naval Reserve Force including the Southeast Region. I believe retention begins the moment a New Affiliate walks into the Reserve Center for his or her first drill weekend. Their first impression of the physical appearance of the center, the attitude and the enthusiasm displayed by the Full-Time Support staff and other Reservists, and the quality of classrooms, workstations, and equipment available for his or her use all affect our ability to retain these new Sailors. De-

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pending on what they see, these New Affiliates will be thinking, "'Do I really want to be a part of this organization,' or 'I'm glad I'm finally here.'" It is very important that all our new Reservists believe they've made the right decision by joining the Naval Reserve.

First impressions count. Our Reserve Center Commanding Officers spend a great deal of time and money on building maintenance and improvements. Many center staffs have undertaken self-help projects or obtained assistance from Seabee units to upgrade facilities. We need to do better. At the Region level, we've been able to provide Reserve Centers with state of the art computers and software, as well as connectivity between the centers and the Readiness Command. I've also requested that the improvement of indoctrination and other classrooms be given a high priority.

The "New Affiliate Indoctrination Working Group" has developed a variety of initiatives to improve the indoctrination process. A key recommendation they have made is to ensure that indoctrination of all New Affiliates be standardized throughout the Region. I want to ensure that all new Sailors are being given the same information about the Naval Reserve. As part of that effort, we have made a video that will be shown at the start of each indoctrination weekend. This video is designed to impart an understanding of how important New Affiliates are to the Naval Reserve. I want them to be aware that they must train in real world, operational settings on a regular basis in order to keep pace with their Active Component counterparts. Only real world, real-time operational training will allow them to perform the same way on annual training or in exercises. In so doing, they will make important contributions to their gaining commands.

One way those of you reading this column can assist us with retention is to be sure that you are doing all that you can to make our newest shipmates a welcome part of the team. At our regional leadership offsite this past year we borrowed a theme from the great coach, Lou Holtz, who teaches that all of us ask three things of our leaders: "Can I trust you? Do you care about me? Are you committed to excellence?" Speaking for myself and our headquarters the unequivocal answer is Yes. In you dealings with your shipmates be sure that you can answer them — Yes.

Thank you all for the great work that you do. I wish you the very best that the New Year has to offer for you and your family.



REDCOM Southeast CMC PNCM(SW) Mark Greeley

By the time you read are 20 feet a this article I will have finished initial visits to the Naval Reserve Centers in North Carolina. As I have traveled with the Commander, I must report that I stand totally impressed and read are 20 feet and any conversa any convers

with the Sailors that I met.

I witnessed your awesome commitment to the Naval Reserve first hand and it continues to revive my spirit and commitment as well. One of the items I have been discussing with the Region CPO mess is communication. Most of us have been through some type of training (e.g., Leadership Continuum, Indoctrination courses etc.) that covers communication. Technological changes, whether it's the Internet or email, have changed the way most of us communicate with each other. However, it also brings about the prospect of human interaction becoming the lesser form of communication. A common occurrence in today's work place is to see co-workers emailing each other with questions, comments or concerns when they

are 20 feet away from each other. Almost any conversation is inevitably going to have a www.something included in it some-

where. We as Sailors, especially the leadership of our organization, cannot afford to become totally reliant on these tools for "getting the word out." We must use the tools that have been established and proven for over 200 years. Well established and proven communication tools such as quarters for muster, instruction and inspection, Plans of the Month, and one-on-one counseling continue to be effective means for ensuring the word is understood and disseminated thoroughly. We must be mindful that "all hands" means just that and not everyone has the latest wiz-bang technology available to them. Technology based communication is an awe-some addition to our toolbox, but it shouldn't replace any of the existing tools.

I'm looking forward to 2001. I'm anxious to have the opportunity to meet each of you. Last year brought about some tremendous achievements and this year promises to improve our program even more. Your innovation is key to success so keep communicating your ideas for improvement up the chain of command. I'll see you around the Region.



Chaplain's Call: *Coping with the "DARK AGES"*By CAPT Don Taylor, CHC, REDCOM Southeast Chaplain

When ice, snow and freezing temperatures become our constant companions (hopefully not the case too often for those in REDCOM SE!), it's a welcome relief to gather with friends and family in our homes to celebrate with a warm holiday spirit. After the

holidays are over, with what are we left? Maintaining those warm feelings through the dead of winter is often a challenge many of us cannot meet. During my college days, the period between Christmas break and Spring break was known as "the Dark Ages." As its name implies, this is not only a time when everyone is waiting on the miseries of a stagnant season to end, but also a time when there are no holidays to pick up our spirits and to give us hope until Spring, with its new life. It is during this time, psychologists tell us, that we are most prone to depression and its often tragic consequences. How can we insulate ourselves from the miseries of "The Dark Ages" and find both hope and happiness during these trying times?

Certainly one way is to keep our thoughts focused on positive things. When the Psalmist found himself asking,

"Will the Lord always reject us? Will he never again be pleased with us? Has he stopped loving us?," he stopped himself and proclaimed, "I will remember your great deeds, O Lord; I will recall the wonders you did in the past. I will think about all you have done; I will meditate on your mighty acts." (Psalm 77). Much more comfort and hope can be derived from accentuating the positive than focusing on the negative, but "good" thoughts are seldom enough. Proverbs reminds us that the secret to happiness is also a matter of doing something: "If you want to be happy, be kind to the poor." What better way to get our minds off of our own misery than to help someone whose plight makes ours seem silly by comparison. Perhaps the writer of Proverbs is merely trying to remind us that the real source of our unhappiness is in too much self pity and not enough service to others.

In light of such wisdom, perhaps this year, after all the Christmas decorations and Hanukkah and Kwansaa candles have been put away, we will better handle the doldrums of the "Dark Ages" and find the real secret to a Happy and Hopeful New Year.



Career Corner REDCOM Southeast Command Career Counselor NCC(SW/AW) Cindy Blevins

Happy New Year!! Calendar year 2000 has come to an exciting end, and now is the time to begin thinking about the rest of 2001. Why, you ask? Well, in calendar year 2001, many of you will decide to retire, transfer, separate or even think about advancement or promotion. What about education? Have you received all the information you need to make an informed decision? If not, ask your career counselor for assistance. I mentioned promotion. Have you been thinking about increased responsibilities? Have you thought about becoming a Naval Officer? Well, there are many programs in place to assist you to obtain that goal. Here are a few of the programs available, deadlines to submit applications, and a brief overview of each:

Seaman to Admiral (STA)

Packages due 1 July 2001

- 1. Must be a highly competitive E-4 who has PNA'd the E-5 exam or E-5 and above, with a minimum of four years active duty or Selected Reserve, and not reached their 27th birthday as of 30 September of the year of application. Your initial appointment is as an Ensign, U.S. Naval Reserve with a minimum service obligation as required by the assigned warfare community.
- 2. Since there are only 50 applications approved each year, this program is designed to select the best of the best. You will attend college year-round, earning a baccalaureate degree in 36 months or less. See *OPNAVINST 1420.1 chapter 6.

Broadened Opportunity for Officer Selection and Training (BOOST) Packages due 1 October 2001

- 1. A rigorous ten-month college preparatory curriculum to reinforce the ability to continue on in the NROTC program to complete a baccalaureate degree. Minimum requirement is the age limit of 22. However, age waivers are available. Available to active duty personnel, including TAR personnel.
- 2. Per NAVADMIN 249/00, BOOST program personnel will remain on active duty, receive full pay and benefits which continues while at the University pursuing your degree. Additionally, you will receive an educational voucher to offset a portion of the college tuition, books and fees. See *OPNAVINST 1420.1 chapter 5.

Limited Duty Officer (LDO)/Chief Warrant Officer (CWO)

Packages due 1 October 2001

- 1. For LDO, must be a first class petty officer or higher with a minimum of eight years, but not more than 16 years, and complete all requirements for CPO, including taking the exam to for board eligibility. Personnel on active duty apply for active duty assignments, and SELRES will apply for assignments under the Naval Reserve program. SELRES packages are due NLT 1 December 2001.
- 2. For CWO, must be at least a CPO, with a minimum of 12 years but not more than 24 years. Personnel on active duty apply for active duty assignments, and SELRES will apply for assignments in the Naval Reserve program. SELRES packages are due NLT 1 December 2001. See *OPNAVINST 1420.1 chapter 14.

Enlisted Commissioning Program (ECP)

Packages due 1 November 2001

- 1. Active duty personnel must have a minimum of four years time in service for this program that provides the opportunity to attend college to complete a baccalaureate degree. Applicants must have a minimum of 30 semester or 45 credit hours of fully transferable college credits which can be applied towards the completion a non-technical degree in not more than 30 calendar months or a technical degree in not more than 36 calendar months of full time, year round school.
- 2. All pays and allowances are paid while attending college. Students are required to pay tuition, fees and books. Use of the Montgomery GI Bill, and applying for scholarships, is highly recommended. See OPNAVINST 1420.1 chapter 8.

Officer Candidate School (OCS)

Packages accepted anytime

- 1. For active duty personnel who already have a baccalaureate degree, why not apply for a direct commission? If you are under the age of 31, and are ready for a challenge, why not apply for this commissioning program? See *OPNAVINST 1420.1 chapter 7.
- 2. Direct commissions are available for SELRES personnel who have college degrees and posses the specialty qualifications sought by the Naval Reserve. You can be appointed as a Naval Reserve Officer for the purpose of performing that specialty. You will attend a two-week indoctrination in Pensacola, Fl. For more information, please see your local Reserve recruiter and ask about a Direct Appointment.

I encourage each of you to take a moment and think about where you want to be in 3 years, 5 years, and even 10 years from now. Why not apply? As always, please take a moment and complete your research. Many of these programs will be undergoing changes this next year. So, before completing that package, ensure you have the most up to date information available. *OPNAVINST 1420.1 is a consolidated listing of all officer programs available, along with guidelines to submit applications.

Professional Information

ALNAVRESFOR 31/00

HIGH YEAR TENURE (HYT) WAIVER POLICY FOR E-4 SELECTED RESERVIST (SELRES) E-4 SELRES personnel who reach HYT in CY01 may remain in a pay status. This authorization expires 31 December 2002. Personnel authorized a HYT waiver via this msg must sign a NAVPERS 1070/613 (page 13) entry.

2001 Defense Authorization Act Benefits Military Reservist

The Senate joined the House in passing the 2001 Defense Authorization bill. This landmark legislation contains the following important provisions for Reservists:

- 1. Maximum number of IDT points increased from 75 to 90 per year.
- 2. Increase to three-star grade for Chiefs of Reserve Components and Directors of the National Guard.
- 3. Lifetime health care benefits for all retired Reserve and Guard members.
- 4. Reserve Component participation in the Thrift Savings Plan.
- 5. Berthing for Reserve members traveling for IDT.
- 6. Children of Reservists are now eligible for presidential appointments to service academies.
- 7. Authority for IDT pay in lieu of allowances for funeral honors duty.
- 8. Legal services to Reserve members following release from active duty.
- 9. Extension of involuntary civil service retirement dates for certain Reservists.
- 10. Expedited release of reports of Reserve officer selection boards.

If you have questions regarding these provisions, call Steve Anderson, ROA's legislative counsel at 1(800) 809-9448, extension 715.

For more information, please see the ALNAVRESFOR DIRECTORY on the web at: http://www.navy.mil/navresfor/admin/alnavres.html

TRANSITION TO NEW TRICARE DENTAL PLAN

The current Tricare Active Duty Family member dental plan (TFMDP) enrollment administration procedures are changing. The TFMDP will be terminated 31 Jan 01. On 01 Feb 01, a new dental program, Tricare Dental Program (TDP) will commence. United Concordia Companies, Inc. (UCCI) will be the new dental contract administrator. Currently enrolled beneficiaries under the TFMDPP will be automatically enrolled in the new TDP. Personnel offices, field finance offices and DFAS stopped accepting DD Forms 2494 and 2492-1 for new TFMDP enrollments as of close of business 17 Nov 00. Individuals should be encouraged to enroll in the new TDP. Under the new TDP there is a 12month vice 24-month minimum enrollment period and reduced premium deductions. Any TFMDP new enrollments or required changes to existing TFMDP enrollments after 08 Dec 00 should have been referred to the Navy TFMDP program coordinator at NAVPERSCOM for approval. If approved, these cases require approximately 30-60 days to manually prosess. UCCI started accepting enrollment forms for the TDP 18 Nov 00, eventhough, coverage will not take effect until 01 Feb 01. After 01 Feb 01, all actions, such as enrollment, change to or election of coverage, termination of enrollment, payroll authorization, benefit verification, claims and appeals, will be handled through the dental contactor vice the servicing personnel office. Questions on enrollment and billing under TDP may be directed to UCCI at 1-888-622-6656 or customer service at 1-800-866-8499. Sponsors are encouraged to review all family members' DEERS/RAPIDS information to ensure it reflects current and correct information with regard to eligibility for medical and dental coverage. Family members' dental benefits are based upon their ID card eligibility and enrollment in DEERS. Detailed information on the expanded benefits of TDP can be reviewed at www.ucci.com or by phone at 1-800-866-8499.

On REDCOM Southeast's Training and Operation's web page there is a valuable training tool. NRF ship operations have been photographed and detailed in an exciting PowerPoint presentation. Chronicled operations onboard USS ESTOCIN are presented in functional areas of line handling, engineering, weapon and others. Ship augment and other Reserve Center units are encouraged to use this tool. Futhermore, users are asked to contact CDR Hagood Morrison at rscen32@navresjax.navy.mil with suggestions and ideas for improvement.

Bravo Zulu to the CY 2000 Southeast Region Sailors of the Year

Asheville Charleston Charlotte Columbia Greensboro Greenville **Jacksonville** Miami Orlando Pensacola Raleigh Roosevelt Roads St. Petersburg **Tallahassee** Tampa West Palm Beach Wilmington **REDCOM Staff**

FTS SOYs HM1(SS) Gregory S. Griffith ET1 Jeffery Davisson YN1(AW) Willis Humphrey EM1 Arthur Johnson IT1(SW) Richard Gamble STS1(SS) Stephen S. Schmidt YN2 Kimberly Barr FC1(SW) John. V. Miller YN2 Karla G. Moreno PN1(AW) Deana L. Murphy HM1 Michael Strobeck HM1(FMF) Ramon Burgos HM2 Charles N. Southard YN2 David Harwick SK1(SW) David W. O'Connor YN2 Shondra D. McKinney HT1(SW) Ronald J. Daniel SK1 Lita M. Taylor

SELRES SOYs YN2 Louis V. Toms SK2 Adrenia Fludd-Bennett OS1(SW) Marcus R. Kirkman Sr. FC1(SW) Paul McCutchan DC1 Gilbert G. Wagi YN1 Travis Dogan GM1(SW) Paul S. Cooper HM1 Rafael Rodriguez SK1 Kermit C. Roberg BU1 Ronald E. Shook BM2 Angelina F. Martzloff HM1(FMF) Carlos R. Alvardo HM1(FMF) Lisa J. Amador HM1 Raymond Allum MA1 James E. Bowers SK2 Michelle Riggs



MN2 Aaron Middleton Selected as the Reserve Mineman of the Year

Story by: BMCM(SW) Hendon

Charleston, SC - The National Mineman Association selected Mineman Second Class Aaron Jermaine Middleton, USNR, of Naval Reserve Mobile Mine Assembly Unit (MOMAU) SIX, as the Reserve Mineman of the Year. The Mineman Association, made up of personnel who have been or are presently Minemen, is head-quartered in Charleston, South Carolina.

LCDR Andrew Lennon the Commanding Officer of MOMAU SIX presented Petty Officer Middleton with this prestigious award during the unit's November drill weekend. The presentation included a certificate signed by Commander Ron Swart, Commander Mobile Mine Assembly Group.

Petty Officer Middleton, a twenty-seven year-old native of Eutawville, South Carolina, enlisted in the Navy in August of 1991. Following completion of Recruit Training Command at Great Lakes and Fire Controlman "A" school he was assigned to USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT, (CVN 71).

MA1 Margaret E. Duttenhoeffer

To continue his Naval career when he left active duty in August of 1997, Petty Officer Middleton affiliated with the Naval Reserve and converted to Mineman. After his assignment to MOMAU 6, he had an immediate positive impact and was selected as Mobile Mine Assembly Unit SIX's Sailor of the Year for 1999.

Petty Officer Middleton is a model citizen Sailor as a "Big Brother," providing mentoring for a 14 year old in Santee, SC. He also participates in the "Book Buddy" Program, a reading program at Dubose Middle School and "Storytime," a voluntary reading program at the Medical University of South Carolina Children's Center

Petty Officer Middleton earned his Bachelor of Arts in Education from Charleston Southern University in 1999. A high school History teacher in his civilian occupation, Petty Officer Middleton's long-range goal is to teach college level education classes.

Senior Chief Boatswains Mate Robin G. Fisher Retires

Story by LCDR Scott Maple Photos by PN1 Phil Tripoli

A retirement ceremony at NRC Asheville marked the completion of 26 years (17 years of sea duty) of honorable service for Senior Chief Boatswains Mate Robin G. Fisher. The award of the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal and Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal recognized his achievement. He was presented letters of appreciation and a shadow box from the NRC Asheville Chief Petty Officer Mess.



Asheville Command Senior Chief receives permission to go ashore for the last time.

The most notable presentation was a heartfelt letter of appreciation

from the Senior Chief to NRC Asheville's contract custodian, Bob Carson, for "keeping the Reserve Center spit and shined..." The moving letter, along with anecdotes of his love for the Navy through 26 years, expressed by the normally gruff Senior Chief, evoked tears from many guests.

The tribute concluded as Zahra Fisher, his wife, surprised him with a rededication of wedding vows in the presence of a minister. While the Navy Hymn played, they were piped ashore as husband and wife to begin a new chapter in their lives "after the Navy," dedicated to each other.

NR NAVAIRTERM 107 NORVA SUPPORTS GAINING COMMAND

Article and Photographs by ENS Gerald H. Wofford



Braving the wind and rain, SK2 Danny Haigler and SK3 Opal Blue assist Mr. Nixon load passenger baggage into a KC-10.

On Pearl Harbor Day 2000, 12 members from NR Naval Air Terminal 107 (NAVAIRTERM) reported for duty to the Norfolk Navy / Air Mobility Command (AMC) Air Terminal in Norfolk, Virginia, for a four day IDTT.

Once a quarter, unit members travel from the Charlotte, North Carolina, area to Norfolk, Virginia, to augment the staff that operates the Navy/AMC Air Terminal (their gaining command). During these IDTTs, members from NAVAIRTERM 107 work in several areas of the terminal such as the cargo warehouse, ramp services, passenger service and the air terminal operations center.

The Reservists who work in the cargo warehouse receive

mail and cargo destined for ships in the fleet or bases around the world. The shipments are sorted by location and loaded onto special pallets designed for travel by air. The pallets are then secured with plastic and a cargo net and are placed in a holding location until ready to be loaded onto an aircraft. Once the aircraft arrives, the Reservists augmenting ramp services upload and download pallets of cargo to and from the aircraft. This is accomplished by using "K" loaders to easily roll the pallets in and out of the planes. The ramp personnel also load and unload passenger baggage to and from special transports by means of a conveyer that lifts up to the fuselage. Forklifts are then used to move the baggage containers to and from the passenger service area.

In passenger service, NAVAIRTERM's Reservists provide information on space availabile travel and assist passengers as they are called to board their flights. This is where patience and good organization pay off when trying to coordinate passengers with operational needs and those waiting for a space "A" seat. This task proved to be much smoother since the Norfolk Air Terminal opened a state-of-the-art passenger terminal in November 2000.

By the conclusion of the IDTT, NAVAIRTERM had helped the full time staff move 552,067 pounds of cargo, upload and download 87 pallets and processed 1,966 passengers through the new passenger terminal. Over all it was a successful mission. The terminal received help with its operations and the Reservists got valuable hands on training from the staff and once again demonstrated their value to the fleet.

Operation Panic Stricken Craft

On November Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Mobile Unit TWO Detachment Roosevelt Roads was conducting diving operations in support of the municipality of Culebra Island near the island of Culebrita, at Cayo Norte. At approximately 1130, AFWTF YFU-81, supporting the EOD detachment heard a distress call being broadcast on Marine Band channel 16, and passed on the information to the EOD boat. The 30-foot sailing vessel "Skylark" was in distress, taking on water due to a cracked hull near her steering shaft. San Juan Coast Guard requested assistance from any vessels in the vicinity of Skylark. EOD immediately ceased diving operations, got all divers out of the water, and departed the area in response to the call for assistance approximately 8 miles to the Northeast.

AFWTF YFU-81 informed San Juan Coast Guard that EOD and was enroute to the Skylark's reported position. A sailing ship "Georgia" was also in the area and responded to the call to assist the stricken vessel. While both vessels were enroute to the stricken Skylark, a three way communication was established between EOD, Georgia, and San Juan Coast Guard station.

The sailing vessel Georgia was first to arrive on scene and reported that Skylark had three people onboard and was taking on water rapidly. Due to Georgia's size (100') and the heavy sea state, she was unable to pull alongside the Skylark. Approximately 5 minutes later EOD arrived on scene to assist. On Skylark's main deck

CDR James Ford, LCDR Timothy Richardt, TMCM (EOD/SW) Clifton Ancelet, OS2 Donald Severance, and BM1 (EOD) TImothy Spiak

were three personnel and two cats. Although they appeared fatigued and frightened, it was established that all occupants onboard were in good physical condition.

At the helm of the EOD boat was Master Chief Cliff Ancelet. Though the sea state was getting difficult, he was able to successfully transport one EOD member, BM1 Tim Spiak onto Skylark to assess the situation and assist where needed. The skipper onboard the Skylark stated that he wanted to try and save his craft if possible. The sailing vessel Georgia communicated with EOD that she had a diesel powered pump. Again, despite the treacherous weather conditions, Master Chief Ancelet expertly maneuvered the EOD boat alongside the Georgia and maintained station, while the water pump was lowered onto EOD's RHIB (Rigid Hull Inflatable Boat). The heavy pump was successfully lowered into the pitching EOD boat mainly due to the efforts of CDR Jim Ford, Commanding Officer of the Naval Reserve Center, Roosevelt Roads, PR who was diving with the EOD detachment on that day, and OS2 Don Severance, a member of the EOD detachment, who was assigned to support the diving operation on that day. "Getting out to the rescue site was grueling because we had to fight 5-6 foot seas in a small boat for about an hour. That in itself was throwing folks and our craft all about." said CDR Ford.

Even though the waves continued to crash the EOD boat into the Georgia, and it was extremely difficult to maintain footing, let alone receive heavy objects from another vessel, CDR Ford and OS2 Severance did just that. As they also assisted Georgia's Engineer down into EOD's boat. Master Chief Ancelet then drove the EOD boat carrying the Engineer and a badly needed water pump back to the stricken Skylark. When they pulled back alongside Skylark, she had

sunk even further into the sea. It was evident there was not much time. Quickly, CDR Ford and OS2 Severance assisted the Engineer onto the Skylark, and then lifted and passed over to Skylark the heavy water pump. BM1 Spiak and the Skylark crew, worked quickly to secure the water pump. They ran a large hose down into the Skylark in a desperate attempt to pump water out of Skylark's hold. Unfortunately, Skylark was taking on water too rapidly, and the water pump was unable to reverse the imminent danger.

The situation quickly became dangerous. LCDR Tim Richardt, the EOD detachment's Officer in Charge, who had been manning the radio, maintaining communications between EOD, the Coast Guard and the Georgia, directed BM1 Spiak to abandon the sinking craft and return to EOD's boat. For their own safety, Skylark's crew was advised to abandon the sinking craft as wel as it was apparent

Continued next page...

SMAT 102 ASSISTS **USS O'BANNON**

Story and Photos by SKI Carlos Rivera

For the last several years USS O'BANNON (DD-987), a ship homeported at Naval Station Mayport, Florida, has had trouble in passing its regular Supply Management Inspection (SMI). This past year USS O'BANNON sought the help of the Naval Reserve in preparing for their SMI. They requested the help of the Supply Management Assist Team, Detachment 102 (SMAT 102).

This Reserve unit of 27 members has provided quality customer service to various ships in Mayport, including USS O'BANNON since 1995. In the last six months of fiscal year 2000, SMAT 102 members contributed 60 days of work while on ATs on the ship. In addition, 446 contributory support hours were performed in four visits to the Supply Department of USS O'BANNON. Thanks to the efforts of SMAT 102 personnel, USS O'BANNON was successful in receiving a satisfactory score on their Supply Management Inspection.

Most of the work done by SMAT 102 aboard the ship was invetory verification, record maitenance, and general assistance to meet SMI requirements. The unit takes great pride in their work and recognizes that their primary mission is to provide the best level of customer service to supply departments requesting their assistance.

"It was a real pleasure to work with the outstanding personnel of the Supply Department on USS O'BANNON. Thanks to their help all the members of our unit received valuable shipboard supply training," stated Lieutenant Commander Fred Boyles, Officer Charge, SMAT 102. Supply Officer on USS O'BANNON, Lieutenant Mike Jones stated,

" The Sailors from SMAT 102 demonstrated



SKC Robin Wilson checks over SK2 Jerome Van Dyke of SMAT 102 while he takes care of USS O'BANNON's daily parcel post

howthe ReserveForce supports the ONE-NAVY concept of working with the fleet. We are deeply indebted to these folks for their help over the last year and they made a real difference in us making the grade on our SMI".

SMAT 102 was established in October 1995 at the Naval and Marine Corps Reserve Center in Orlando, Florida and receives direct funding from Naval Surface Force, Atlantic Fleet. The unit drills most months at Mayport Naval Station.

Continued from previous page...

it was not salvageable. They heeded the advice, and quickly, all three individuals along with their two cats, climbed into their small dinghy. OS2 Severance passed a line to the dinghy from the EOD boat, and the dinghy was quickly pulled away from the sinking sailboat. Within three minutes time, Skylark slipped beneath the surface. The EOD boat then maneuvered to the site of the boat's sinking, marked the position by using EOD's handheld GPS, and passed on the location of the sinking to the Coast Guard in San Juan. The rescued Skylark occupants and their two cats were then transferred to the sailing vessel Georgia for their return to Culebra. Following the transfer of the survivors to the Georgia, EOD remained on station to recover floating debris.that floated to the surface following the sinking.

"Once on station, there was a joint intent by all to try and save the sailboat and it was exhilarating to be part of that effort. Once we realized we were fighting a losing battle and the situation became dangerous for the folks onboard the sailboat, we suggested to them to abandon their boat. Extreme sadness prevailed at that point because the folks that abandoned their sailboat literally abandoned their home. The folks that we saved were crying, and most of us were holding back tears as we watched the entire event unfold. Silence was the environment as we transported the rescued victims to another large craft for the journey back to Culebra. I have always had respect for the seas and this was just another lesson to prove that point,"said CDR Ford

Following the incident, the EOD detachment returned to their dive site near Culebra Island, and continued diving operations.

NORTH CAROLINA NAVY BOSSLIFT 2000

By CDR Ed Gallrein and ENS Gerald H. Wofford

The Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) sponsored a "Boss Lift" to Naval Station Mayport and NAS Jacksonville to better inform Naval Reserve employers/bosses about the real value of their efforts to support Reservists. The ESGR is an agency within the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs. The purpose of the ESGR is to promote cooperation and understanding between Reservists and their civilian employers and to assist in the resolution of conflicts that may arise from an employee's military commitment.

The Boss Lift is a unique opportunity for the Reservist's employer to see first hand some of the duties that their employees might perform during time away from their civilian jobs. It also provides awareness of how important the Reservists are to their active duty counterparts during Annual Training periods, normal drill weekends and extended drill weekends/periods. The specific purpose of the Navy Boss lift to

Mayport and Jacksonville was to better inform Naval Reserve employers and key community leaders from North Carolina how important their support is, as well as the value of their Naval Reserve employee to the Navy and the Nation. This particular Boss lift, months in the making, included active duty and Naval Reserve personnel and ESGR members.

John Cury of Lillie Industries was one of the bosses/employers on the trip. Mr. Cury said he did not know how much was involved in Reserve activities. He went on to say that, "the trip made me more aware of how much the Reserve Force contributes, the benefits outweigh everything."

The bosses from the Charlotte and Greensboro area boarded a North Carolina Air National Guard C-130 Hercules and departed for Seymour-Johnson Air Force Base in Goldsboro, NC. There, another group of bosses from the Goldsboro area and Virginia boarded before continuing on to Naval Station Mayport to start their exposure to the Navy. In all, over 35 bosses and ESGR members participated in the Boss lift.

After arriving in Mayport, participants were given a tour of USS JOHN F KENNEDY (CV-67) that included the Bridge, the Hangar Deck, Combat Information Center (CIC), Flight Deck Control and the Forecastle. At the conclusion of the tour, the bosses were treated to lunch in the Officer's wardroom.

The next stop on the tour was USS SAMUEL ELIOT

MORISON (FFG13), a Naval Reserve Force ship. After a briefing and Q & A session from Morison's Commanding Officer, Commander Fred P. McKenna, the tour continued. Led by sharp looking Petty Officers in Dress Blues from the Morison's crew, the tour began with a stop at the ship's store where the bosses were able to purchase shipboard souvenirs. From there the tour continued on to CIC and the Bridge, ending up on the weather deck were the Petty Officers explained how the ship's weaponry functioned.



The bosses pose for a group photo in front of one of The Emerald Knights' SH-60F/HH-60H "Sea Hawk" helicopters

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On USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV-67), a group of the bosses observe some of the flight deck activities as the ship prepares for a deployment.

After a good night's sleep in the Mayport Naval Station Bachelor Officer Quarters, breakfast was served to all in the base Galley. From there they traveled on to NAS Jacksonville. After arriving at Naval Reserve Readiness Command Southeast, the group received a briefing and follow-up Q & A session by CAPT Rhonda S. Landers, the Deputy Commander.

The last stop on the tour was a visit to The Emerald Knights of HS-75, a Naval Reserve Helicopter Squadron. Here the group learned about the mission and aircraft of HS-75 from the squadron's Commanding Officer, Commander Jay McGovern. Next, they proceeded down to the hangar to view some of HS-75's helicopters.

It was a great trip and the bosses had some good fun. They also came away with a greater appreciation for the sacrifice of their employees' time when the Naval Reserve call of duty arises.

Christmas for Kids

Story by LT Sherilyn Anna Photos by MM2(SW) Shawn Hawkins

Children and adult house parents from the Black Mountain Presbyterian Children's Home celebrated the holiday season with Naval Reservists during the fourth annual "Christmas for Kids" party on December 2, 2000 at NRC Asheville. The 31 children range in age from 8-18. Most of the youngsters were removed from difficult home environments that included abuse and/or neglect. The Reservists in Asheville have developed a special bond with the children and adult leaders of the Children's Home over the last four years.

This year the celebration was a day filled with joy, fun, presents, games, music, pizza, and of course, a visit from dear ole Santa. Petty Officer Corrine Meade who hosts this event said, "This is probably the biggest celebration that many of these children will have this holiday season. We Reservists want to make sure that it's a memorable one." Generous donations were received throughout the year from local proprietors and Naval

Reservists. The children received 12 bicycles, helmets, games, clothes, gift certificates, and other needed items in an awesome outpouring of gifts that grows larger every year.



YN1 Corrine Meade traded in her uniform for the garb of Santa's helper

Football Reenlistment



YN2 Shebrina Lewis among others, raise their right hands to recite the reenlistment oath

YN2 Shebrina Lewis and YN2 Christina
Lupton, of REDCOM SE and SK3 Oscar J.
Huerta of NMCRC Orlando, FL, experienced the
excitement of reenlisting at one of the NFL's finest
football team's home games. On November 12, the
three members of the Southeast Region gathered
with hundreds of other anxious shipmates, ready to
re-commit their lives to the Navy or Marine Corps.
"I felt very honored to be a part of the reenlistment
ceremony at the Jag game. Patriotism was apparent
in the 99 other personnel that came together to
share a special moment we would never forget," said
YN2 Christina Lupton

RADM Jan Gaudio, Commander, Navy Region Southeast, performed the ceremony about 20 minutes prior to the Jaguar game kick-off.

The Jaguar owners, Mr. and Mrs. Weaver, felt that having the reenlistments at Alltel stadium was a perfect way to thank all of the Military personnel within the Jacksonville area for their suuport. NCC Cindy Blevins of REDCOM SE said,

"To witness 100 Sailors and Marines reenlisting as a group was one of my most exciting experinces to date. Watching that many individuals renew their commitment to the Navy and Marine Corps was incredible. Doing the ceremony in front of the fans was important to show the Military continues to remain strong."

Way to go team!!

Naval Reserve Readiness Command Southeast kicks off Campaign Drug Free (CDF) during Red Ribbon Week.



This years' Red Ribbon Week

was held from October 23-27. Red Ribbon Week is a National event held annually to teach children about the dangers of illegal drugs. During this time REDCOM Southeast, PNC(SW) Ray Sutton spoke to 4 schools in the local Jacksonville area. Chief Sutton, REDCOM SE CDF coordinator for the past 2 years, spoke to elementary students about the dangers of alcohol, cigarettes and illegal drugs. PNC stressed that you don't need drugs to be cool, popular or accepted. He told them that hard work plus an education minus drugs was the formula for a successful future. He also used roll playing and videos to help get the word across that you can become whatever you want to be as long as you stay away from drugs. "had a very successful week," PNC stated. "Not only did I speak to over 2,100 children, but I was able to provide many hand outs and gifts to the kids. This wouldn't have been possible without the help of my command, the local recruiters and COMNAVRESFOR."

A PARTNERSHIP THAT WORKS

Story by JO2 Misty Skidmore

Naval and Marine Corps Reserve Center Jacksonville is partnered with Brentwood Elementary School on the North side of Jacksonville. Brentwood Elementary School and the Reserve Center have both benefited from their partnership.

All Florida public schools are graded on a scale of A through



F, based on student performance on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT). Early in the school year, Florida Governor Jeb Bush was at Brentwood to present them with a check for \$28,600. The check was bonus money for Continued next page...

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Brentwood's improvement in one year from a grade of D to an A.

Additionally, the Reserve Center received a Pathfinder Award from the Alliance for World Class Education and the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce for their work with Brentwood.

School partnership volunteers offer their time, not because they have to, but because they want to.

"No one forces us to go, it is strictly voluntary," says SKI Nathaniel Jones, a volunteer from the NMCRC Jackson-ville. "I go because I want to. I may not have a lot to offer the kids, but I can offer my time."

At every partnership school, the students are very happy to see the Navy representatives coming in.

"You see their faces light up and smiles stretch across their faces whenever we walk in with our uniforms on," said SKI Jones.

"The kids really do love seeing the military personnel," said YNC Keith Yarbrough, another volunteer from the Reserve Center.

The Sailors from the Reserve Center help out in many

ways, including tutoring and mentoring, escorting filed trips, helping with the school's sports day, and building and cleaning projects.

"I just wish we had time to do more," added YNC Yarbrough.

Regardless of whether they have more time or not, the time they do spend offers positive results.

"The partnerships are good for the Navy because it gets us into the schools helping the students. With the Sailors getting involved in the school, it may make them decide to make teaching their career after the military," said the XO, CDR James Fossa, "It is also good for the school because today's classroom curriculum depends on community business partners to help share with the education process of our youth."

One thing that rings true from everyone spoken to about volunteering is that it is one way Navy volunteers can give something back to the community.

YNC Yarbrough encourages all commands to get involved with a partnership school if they do not already have one, and points out that anyone can help out at the schools. "As I tell my Sailors, there is no experience required."

Navy Birthday Ball 2000

Story and Photos by David Ross

Greensboro, NC- Can you imagine trying to blow out 225 candles on your birthday cake? This feat was attempted by over 390 Navy and Marine Reservists, their families and supporters at the 225th Annual Navy Birthday Ball hosted by Commander Roman Bowles, Commanding Officer Naval and Marine Reserve



RADM Casey Coane speaks at Navy ball

Corps Reserve Center Greensboro. The event was held at the Greensboro Airport Embassy Suites on the evening of October 14, 2000.

Commander Bowles welcomed special guest Rear Admiral Casey W. Coane, Commander, Naval Reserve Readiness Command Southeast. As guest speaker, Admiral Coane provided a state of readiness outline to the Sailors. He acknowledged that the current membership in the military is a highly trained and qualified force, but that they are lacking in the tools needed to stay the

premier fighting force in the world. Admiral Coane also welcomed NMCRC Greensboro into Naval Reserve Readiness Command Southeast.

With the recent events in the Middle East, especially with USS COLE, it seemed exceedingly important that Navy personnel from around the world take time out to reflect on their accomplishments and where they may be headed in the near future. This celebration is a moment when the Sailors and their families can take a step back from daily duties and enjoy the casual fellowship of their Shipmates. These honorable men and women enjoyed themselves, but it was certain that their minds were ever conscious of those who recently lost their lives. One of the most moving moments of the evening was Master Chief Greeley's

toast to the MIA/POW table. The Navy Ball was made possible through the extraordinary effort of the Reserve Center and the event coordinator, LCDR Dante Paganucci, Executive Officer, NMCRC Greensboro. The men and women of the Re-



MIA/POW Table

serve Center work throughout the year in order to orchestrate this gal affair.

The individual Reserve units hold fundraisers and planning sessions in order to ensure that all who want to participate can. 225 years of service, 225 years of honor, 225 years of dedication and sacrifice, Happy Birthday Navy!

DIVE DIVE!!

Story and photos by ETCS Tim McTrusty of EOD Unit Twelve, DET 10

NR Explosive Ordnance Dis-

posal Unit Twelve, Detachment Ten of Naval and Marine Corps Reserve Center Tallahassee, Florida, recently performed a vigorous threeday IDTT at the Navy EOD School, Eglin AFB. The focus of the IDTT was to accomplish training in the following areas: underwater MCM, PQS-2A, PLGR GPS, MK 16 dive supervisor, MK 16 diving, small boat coxswain, recompression chamber, and general equipment load out. Each member of the unit that attended the training was qualified mobilization ready. There were eight active duty divers that assisted in coordinating and instructing members during the unit's training evolution. CWO Lester Burke, Commanding Officer of EODMU-12 DET 10, said,



BM2 Kevin Brockway tends ETCS Tim McTrusty and BM1 Boyd Laughlin prior to sonar search

"The diversified training we received through the cooperation with the EOD School at Eglin Air Force Base has injected a significant boost in our unit's readiness and morale."



Nursing Award

CAPT Patricia Underdahl, NC, USNR (left) presents LCDR Martha Hicks, NC, USNR (center) the REDCOM Southeast Nursing Leadership Award. CAPT Johnna Dettis, NC, USNR (right), NH Pensacola 108 Unit OIC. LCDR Hicks received the award for her professional achievement in the superior performance of duties while serving as Department Head, Physical Exams and Immunizations, and Command Fitness Leader for

NR Naval Hospital Pensacola 108. Her resourcefulness and innovative leadership style were catalytic elements in providing outstanding medical services to over 400 Selected Reservists and increasing the Center's medical readiness to 92%. Her masterful goal setting, achievement and boundless commitment to excellence for herself, her unit, and nursing set the standard in REDCOM Southeast.



Greenville Effort Brings in a Ton of Food

Greenville, SC Sailors are very proud of the results of their recently concluded food drive. Seven units from the Reserve Center, six Reserve units and one unit of full time staff competed in the food drive won this year by NR FFG Augment 207, commanded by LCDR Michael Hodges. Altogether, the Reserve Center Sailors brought in an estimated 2000 pounds of non-perishable food items, making the real winners the local charities and food banks who benefited from this year's program. ENC(SW) Michael Sterling, the Reserve Center Com-

mand Chief was especially proud of the effort. "Tables were set up along the passageways of the center with signs designating which unit was responsible for each area. This seemed to bring out a healthy competitive spirit among our Sailors who could see what each unit had donated. No one wanted to see their unit outdone by another. The net result was the best food drive here in recent memory. Thanks to all who participated."

Miami Sailors Getting Healthier

Story by SN Mujica, USNR, NR NCAPS NAVCENT Det D Photos by STG1 (SW) Bartley, USN, N&MCRC Miami

Miami, FL – NR Naval Hospital Jacksonville Detachment 708 (NR NH JAX 708), com m anded by CDR Serena Chetta, celebrated its 3rd annual health fair at Naval and Marine Corps Reserve Center Miami. The health fair's objective was to promote the importance of preventive medicine and to demonstrate healthy lifestyle options.

Sponsored by the Miami Chief Petty Officers' Association, the event covered 15 different health-related topics including: physical fitness, nutrition, women's health, drug abuse prevention and treatment, dental hygiene, hearing conservation and the health risks associated with tobacco use. Several displays focused on major health DT3 Richard McGowan gives oral conditions and ailments such as HIV, hepatitis, and cardiovascular, skin and podiatry



hygiene instructions



LT Sonia Anglin discusses women's health with CDR Serena Chetta and LTJG Traci Brown

diseases. Booths on TRICARE and VA benefits were well attended throughout the afternoon. In addition to information booths, there were several interactive exhibits, including massage therapy, height/weight/body composition measurements, and cardiovascular exercise routines. Sailors lined up for free samples of dental care products, vitamins, healthy snacks, and other health promotion items. Behind the fair's fun and interesting facts and eye-catching exhibits is a strong desire to increase awareness for health issues in the Naval Reserve as well as the local community.

"There are not many resources out there that talk about preventive medicine. In fact, most insurance plans do not cover preventive medicine, so we need to stress this as much as we can," said CDR Chetta.

The health fair entertained and enlightened hundreds of Naval Reservists and was a rousing success. It's message was clear – a health conscious lifestyle leads to increased longevity and better quality of life.

Southeast Accomplishments

Navy & Marine Corps Commendation Medal

Asheville

LCDR Mike Gray SKC Lawrence Garogalo BMCS Robin Fisher

Charlotte

CAPT Charles McManus CAPT Jeffrey Thomas CDR Kathryn Janasco CDR John Robertson CDR Pressley Stutts Jr.

CDR Paul Ulmer

Jacksonville LCDR Sarah Supnik LT Matthew Klee

Miami

CDR Leon Dato CDR David Harris CDR Jeffrey Jerome CDR Kathleen Thompson LCDR Gerald Leekey

Pensacola

CDR Teresa Fairbanks

Joint Service Achieve-

ment Medal

St Petersburg

YNC Amelia Corl-Norris

Navy & Marine Corps
Achievement Medal

Asheville

PN2 Luana Cantrell

Charlotte

LCDR George McKemey LCDR Kevin O'Brien LCDR Samuel Strange LCDR William Suddarth LT Franklin Dukes YNC Lawrence High SKC James Summey DC1 Joseph Cozzo HM1 Richard Thompson

EM2 Henry Gwyn HM2 Adrian Mattocks

SK2 Jose Vergara

HM2 Richard Witten Jr.

Columbia

ET2 Robert Hudson YN2 Jeri-Jo Goodrich IT2 Robert Snell STG2 William Tolar

Greensboro

ET1 Michael Carr GM1 Ronald Pendleton YN2 Elizabeth French

Jacksonville

LT John Cadogan DKCS Donna Wilcox ABF1 Charles Kelley HT1 Rory St. John DT3 Jack Adams DT3 Deborah Smalls DT3 Kathy Walls EN3 Julieta Nelson

Miami

LT Veronica Dasilva LTJG Robert Irigoyen FC1 Keith Ervolino HM1 Rafael Rodriguez IT2 Chantal Jeannot HM3 Hector Santos

Pensacola

LT Barbara Lumpkin
LT Gaylene Ponas
YN1 Keith Broughton
PN1 William Powe
PN1 Gene Yaeger
IT2 Paul Clavier
YN2 Rhonda Estrada
YN2 William Harris
EMC Thomas Dickson Jr.

Raleigh

DT1 Patrick Cowen
PN1 Samual Townsend
SN Lusung Ward

Roosevelt Roads

LCDR Adbel Ruiz LCDR Jose Sarraga BM1 Daniel Laureano BM2 Jose Calimano AT2 Jose Santiago

SK2 Alexander Cruz MM2 Luis Cruz

SK2 Mitchell Wilke ABF3 Hector Colon-Alers

St Petersburg

LCDR Stephen Cassidy PN1 Pamela Akins

YN2 Steven Dee *Tallahassee*

FCCS Earnest Reed HM1 Raymond Allum YN1 Kenneth Spiro

Good Conduct Medal

Charlotte

BMCS Feliciano Maldonado OSC Peter Shore YN1 Willis Humphery

Columbia

SKC Deborah Howard ITC George Washington

ITC George Washington HM1 Harry Davis MA1 Patrick Evans MR1 Keith Galloway HM1 Joseph Hubbard SK2 Edward Alston AO2 Anthony Baker

MA2 James Boland IT2 Albert Burt

BM2 Quincy Champion HM2 Willie Goodwin HM2 Stanley Holmes

HM2 Duval Raines YN2 Rosalyn Reeder

SK2 Darlene Rush MS2 Ronald Thomas

STG2 William Tolar HM2 Mary Turner YN2 Tonia Wilson

PC3 Mary Ferrell IT3 Nathaniel Hilliard

IT3 Danny Jones

SK3 Michael Madinson SK3 Pinifred Perry-Baker

BM3 Isaac Romey BM3 Craig Samuel

BM3 Phillip Shipley

YN3 Sherry Smith-Highbaugh

IT3 Robert Snell MS3 Mattie Waden HM3 Melvin Walters

MS3 Anthony Wright SN Tawanna Gaymon

FN Steven James SN Eric Wilson

Jacksonville

PNC Alphonso Victor HT1 Tony Walton YN2 Zenia Gammage *Military Outstanding*

Volunteer Service Medal

REDCOM SE

YN1 Terry Austin

Asheville

BMCS Robin Fisher YN1 Corrine Meade

Jacksonville

IT1 Gregory Brown DT1 Mary Osoriomort HM1 Pamela Synnes

Tallahassee

BMC Michael Elliott

SOQs REDCOM SE

HM2 Faison

Asheville

IC1 Steven Lewis

IT2 Jacqueline Riner

Jacksonville

YN2 Zenia Gammage SK1 Nathaniel Jones HT1 Robert Boyer

Miami

HM2 Kevin Mayfield

Pensacola

BM1 Cleveland Kelley IT2 Barbara Baird HM2 Danny Shingleton

ET3 Christopher Negron QM2 Steven Thompson

Raleigh

PN1 Roy Jones

BM2 Angelina Martzolff

St Petersburg

HM1 Lisa Amador

Tallahassee

YN1 Kenneth Spiro HM2 Jennifer Smith

Blue Jacket of the Quarter

Asheville

HM3 James Caudill

Pensacola

MS3 Steven Johnson

St Petersburg

IT3 Deborah Mack